



## **Frank & Nancy Gonzales**

Married for 51 years with six children, Frank and Nancy are a dynamic duo. Standing side by side, they have dedicated thousands of volunteer hours to their community. They are passionate advocates. Frank is recognized as a pioneering voice and community activist who has helped plant the seeds of many civic and cultural efforts in Milwaukee's Latino community. An avid fundraiser, Frank's self-proclaimed claim-to-fame is that he and Nancy sold the first soft shell taco in Milwaukee County at a Democratic Picnic at the Bavarian Inn in the early 1970's. As one of the school's co-founders, Frank was known to go door-to-door asking for a one-dollar donation to support the early days of Bruce Guadalupe Community School. Frank has been an integral part of the growth and promotion of Mexican Fiesta, starting 32 years ago as a volunteer bar manager. He now serves on the festival's board of directors and is a board member of the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

Since 2006 Frank and Nancy, daily icons at the OASIS Senior Center, have volunteered countless hours for the Milwaukee County Senior Dining program. Frank, the "Plant Care Expert", works numerous hours nurturing the plants in the Center's small greenhouse. Frank was member of the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging from 2008-2014, served as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission's Advocacy Committee, and Vice-Chair of the Commission from 2012-2014. He and Nancy also served on the Nutrition Council for the last six years. Nancy is ever present with Frank at all Commission meetings and Milwaukee County Department on Aging functions. Parish members for more than 50 years at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, they made volunteering for the Church and the Church festival a commitment for the entire family. Frank and Nancy are all about community and family. We honor their lifetime of advocacy and civic responsibility.

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